

CITY INSIGHT

www.KilleenTexas.gov

February 2023

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A Message from Mayor Debbie Nash-King



We are more than one month into the new year and I hope everyone is keeping up with whatever new goals they set for 2023.

February may be the shortest month of the year, but your municipal government has a lot planned and we have already kicked into high gear for our citizens. We started the year by having a joint meeting with our partner, the Killeen Independent School District (KISD). Our discussions included both short and long-range projects, as well as the best options for our youth.

During our council meetings, we've approved movements with our major road construction projects, including Bunny Trail, Watercrest and Willow Springs; approved nearly \$400,000 in medical supplies for the fire department, approved a nearly \$600,000 grant agreement to replace body armor for our police department; and accepted a grant to continue the Victims of Crime Act Crisis Assistance Program, among other items.

In May, residents who live in districts 1-4 will be voting

for their council representative. As always, we encourage citizens to be a part of the election process and engage with their elected officials. The filing period for the May 6 election ends on Feb. 17.

February is also American Heart Month, and we want to bring awareness to the #1 killer of Americans—heart disease. Take this time to focus on your cardiovascular health—not just as a resolution, but as a lifestyle. The City of Killeen's Family Recreation Center offers weight machines, free weights, cardio equipment, an indoor walking track, open gym time, instructor-led classes and childcare is free for members. We welcome you to join.

Lastly, we have a "Save the Dates" calendar for 2023 that highlights our 2023 events in Historic Downtown. We'll be celebrating "Motown in Downtown" again this month. We invite you to bring your family and/or friends to our monthly events to have a good time at no charge. We'll be offering live entertainment, games, visual art and more for free. There will also be a chance to support your local food and craft small businesses. Have a great month!

Born to run



The Half Marafun closed out a great 2022 Centex Race Series in December. The 2023 series, which has races throughout Central Texas, is underway. Sign up today at KilleenTexas.gov/Centex.

A better airport



The Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport has begun work on an \$11 million taxiway rehab project. The project is being funded by a grant, meaning it's at no cost to Killeen citizens.

Downtown events

Our Downtown Event Series kicks off with Motown in Downtown on Feb. 25. This event was a big success last year, as people of all ages and nationalities celebrated the classic sounds, looks and history of Motown. We hope to see you again this year as we kick off the season.



**UPCOMING
DOWNTOWN EVENTS**

February 25
Motown in Downtown

March 11
Flavors of Central Texas

April 27-29
Celebrate Killeen Festival

May 6
Central Texas
Asian Pacific Festival

www.KilleenTexas.gov/Downtown

New Year, New You! Join our Family Recreation Center

Was one of your New Year's resolutions to get in shape? If so, have you been able to stick to it? Why not consider a membership for the entire family at our Family Recreation Center? With modern exercise equipment, free weights, an open gym, and daily exercise classes, there's something for everyone to stay healthy in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS	
Family (2 adults 2 children)	\$460
Adult (16-54)	\$160
Senior (55+)	\$100
Youth (8-15)	\$100
MONTHLY MEMBERSHIPS	
Family (2 adults 2 children)	\$45
Adult (16-54)	\$20
Senior (55+)	\$10
Youth (8-15)	\$15
<i>Free childcare provided for members</i>	



KILLEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT IS HIRING!!

The Killeen Fire Department will begin taking applications from February 27 through April 12, 2023.

The Civil Service test will be held on April 26, and projected start date would be July 28, 2023.

Minimum Requirements: minimum of 18 years of age, but not older than 36 by date of hire;

High School Diploma; Possess a valid Texas driver's license.

Starting Salary of \$53,473.84

Benefits include: Medical/Dental/Vision, Vacation/Sick Leave, Paid Training, Tuition Reimbursement, Bilingual Pay, Certification Incentive Pay.

No experience or certification needed.

Come Join our team!!!



ENGINEERING DIVISION

PREVENT >

STOP POLLUTION

Take these simple steps to help prevent water / runoff pollution:

- **Don't** blow grass clippings into the street to be washed into an inlet.
- **Do** sweep driveways, sidewalks and gutters to keep them debris-free.
- **Don't** overwater lawn.
- **Do** follow directions when using fertilizers and pesticides; consider organic alternatives.
- **Don't** dispose of mop water in the street or parking lots.
- **Don't** pour cooking oil down sink or storm drains.
- **Do** recycle used oil. Use drip pan at home to catch any motor oil that may spill. Killeen Recycling Center accepts used cooking and motor oil.
- **Don't** change oil in streets or driveways to avoid spills into drainage system.
- **Do** fix auto leaks quickly and dispose of used motor oil properly.
- **Do** clean up pet waste.
- **Do** dispose of hazardous materials properly: clean up spills immediately to prevent contact with storm water.

KNOW >

STORMWATER RUNOFF

Stormwater runoff is a major source of surface water pollution.

Runoff can pick up contaminants from the ground. Water quality is reduced when contaminants enter our waterways.

Contaminants include oil, gas, paint, fertilizer, pet waste, grass clippings, car wash water and many others.

FOLLOW >

ILLICIT DISCHARGES ORDINANCE

Chapter 32, Sections 24 and 25

No person shall introduce or cause to be introduced into the MS4 storm water drainage system any discharge that is not composed entirely of stormwater.

REPORT >

EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL

As development and redevelopment continue to thrive in Killeen, we need your help to keep Killeen clean. Report tracking of sediment onto roadways or into waterways. Report failed control measures such as silt fences, inlet protections, construction entrances, etc.



DRAINAGE UTILITY FEE

WHAT IS A DRAINAGE UTILITY FEE?

A Drainage Utility Fee (DUF) is a monthly charge assessed to all properties based on impervious cover. Revenue from the fee is used to improve and maintain the City's drainage infrastructure system and to protect water quality.

WHAT IS IMPERVIOUS COVER?

Impervious cover includes surfaces that do not allow rainfall to absorb or infiltrate the soil thus generating runoff into the waterways. Examples of impervious cover include rooftops, driveways, walkways, patios, sheds, parking lots and loading docks.

WHEN DID NEW DRAINAGE FEES BEGIN?

Drainage Utility Fees have been in place since 2001; however, City Council adopted a change to the calculation of the DUF in July 2019 using the impervious cover based method for non-residential properties. Fee collection under the new calculation began in February 2020.

HOW MUCH IS MY FEE?

The Drainage Utility Fee for single-family and duplex properties remains \$5.40 per month.

The DUF for non-residential properties is based on an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). Non-residential customers are defined as commercial properties and those multi-family properties with three or more units. An ERU is a unit of measurement of impervious cover based on the average residential property. The City of Killeen current adopted value is 1 ERU = 3,027 square feet of impervious cover.

The number of ERUs for each non-residential property receiving utility service from the City shall be individually determined by dividing the actual impervious surface area of the property by 3,027 and rounded to the nearest whole number. A \$6 DUF is applied for each ERU.

HOW DO I REDUCE MY FEE?

The only available option for non-residential customers to reduce their monthly DUF is to decrease or remove existing impervious cover from the parcel and revegetate the disturbed areas.

Visit the City's Stormwater Management Program web page to read how citizens can help keep Drainage Utility fees low. www.KilleenTexas.gov/Stormwater or scan the QR code.

